

# THE ROBESONIAN

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## GREAT MEETINGS AND SERMONS OF GREAT POWER.

Thousands Are Attending Services at Banner Warehouse—Hundreds Are Being Turned From Sin—"Signs of the Times" Subject This Evening—Services Christmas Night and Twice Daily Thereafter

This evening at the banner warehouse Evangelist B. F. McLendon will preach on "The Signs of the Times, or the Second Coming of Christ." This is the regular service for colored people but a section will be reserved for whites and all are invited.

There will be no service after this evening until Wednesday evening at 7:30—Christmas night—and thereafter there will be services twice daily, at 9 and 7:30 p. m., and three services Sunday, at 11 a. m., 3 and 7:30 p. m. Mr. McLendon will go to Bennettsville tomorrow to spend Christmas with his family.

In spite of the downpour of rain, three splendid services were held at the Banner warehouse yesterday. The congregation was small yesterday morning, larger in the afternoon, and last night it numbered more than 2,000. Mr. McLendon preached three great sermons, and at the conclusion of the sermon last evening there were remarkable evidences of the presence of the Holy Spirit, people crowding to the front at the invitation.

Witnessing. The morning sermon was on "Witnessing." The preacher made it plain that every professing Christian must be a living witness for Jesus in his daily life if he is true to his profession. He said the world is not reading the Bible but is reading professing Christians. The professing Christian who does not fall in and help when an effort is being made to bring men and women to Christ is standing in the way of saving souls. An awful responsibility rests upon the child of God.

The Holy Ghost. At the afternoon service Mr. McLendon preached on the Holy Ghost and fire from heaven. Churches have beautiful organizations, he said, but they are getting nowhere because preachers and members are not fired with the Holy Ghost. They are like great engines capable of pulling a great train of loaded cars but standing still because there is no fire in the fire-box.

Sin is the Curse of the World. Last evening Mr. McLendon preached a soul-stirring sermon on sin. He painted sin black like it is. It causes all the sorrow, every heart-break, all trouble, digs every grave. He painted with master strokes the awful consequences of impurity, of drunkenness, of covetousness, of jealousy, of envy, of all the sin horde of black-winged bats from hell. It does not take age to make a devil, he said; it takes sin. Sin is moral insanity and hell is God's insane asylum. If you come to the place, he warned, where a gospel sermon does not reach you—goodbye!

A Marvelous Story of Redemption. It was a marvelous story of the redeeming power of Jesus Christ told by Evangelist McLendon at the service Thursday evening. He told how he was saved from a life of sin—from professional gambler, saloon-keeper, booze-artist, gun-man and frequenter of the haunts of vice. His story, told with dramatic power and earnestness, being done, no wonder scores of people flocked to the front at the invitation and thereby expressed a desire to turn from their sins and be saved.

Mr. McLendon declared that he was as much called to preach as was the apostle Paul. The call came to him, he said, unmistakably at the age of 14, and he tried to stifle it and run away from it. He roamed the country as a gambler and plunged into every dissipation, but he could not drown the voice which followed him by night and by day and told him he was called to preach and was throwing his life away. It followed him even as he fled to the swamps after shooting a man down in the streets of his home town.

He was converted in a tent meeting after a long and hard struggle, and when he made the complete surrender all things became new and he was a new man, no longer the man who delighted in sin.

The telling of that story seems to have been the turning point of the meeting. Since then it has swung into a freer course and at every service since then many have responded to the preacher's invitations.

The Weak Spot of the Church. "Now Peter and John went up together unto the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour"—Acts 3:1. This was the text from which Evangelist McLendon preached Friday afternoon.

"The weak spot of the church today is the prayer-meetings," the preacher declared. You can diagnose the spiritual life of the church by looking in on a mid-week prayer service. The churches in many instances are merely amusement bureaus. Much of the church music is real poppycock and nonsense. It is a shame to desecrate God's house and commercialize it with worldly things.

No Substitute for Prayer. It is time for folks to quit claiming religion and live it. There is no substitute for prayer. Where are the deacons, the Sunday school teachers and the heads of families when the prayer-meetings are being held? the preacher asked. We should live closer together. How many are trying to save and rescue the perishing? We are going to the dogs if the church does not wake up. Too many church members are standing no higher than the world. People are going to hell all around you and you are not trying

## MR. A. W. McLEAN AT HOME.

Director McLean Talks Interestingly of Activities of War Finance Board Since Armistice Was Signed—His Time May Be Required in Washington for Some Months Yet—Says Postal Zone Law Will Be Repealed.

Mr. A. W. McLean, director of the War Finance corporation, came home Friday morning and will leave to return to Washington tonight.

Asked as to effect of the armistice upon the activities of the War Finance corporation, Mr. McLean said:

"While the act creating the corporation provides that new business may be undertaken for a period up to 6 months after peace is declared by proclamation of the President, the directors, having in mind that the act was essentially a war measure, suspended making advances to such industries as munitions plants, ship-building companies, street railways, power companies and others of a similar character immediately upon the cessation of hostilities. The principal activities now engaging the attention of the directors are lending money to preserve breeding cattle in the drought-stricken sections of the South-west, and some crop-moving loans, also large loans to railroads under government control. The latter will aggregate large sums."

"It is difficult to tell just now how long this business will continue for the reason that the duration of government control of railroads is uncertain."

Asked as to how much longer his presence will be required in Washington, Mr. McLean said:

"I cannot say definitely, but I should think that all my time will be required there for some months yet, and after that I may return home and make periodic visits to Washington for the purpose of attending to the business of the corporation."

Mrs. McLean and the family will not return to Lumberton for the Christmas holidays, as originally contemplated, but will remain in Washington.

Mr. McLean said that Capt. J. Dickson McLean will spend a few days leave with them at their Washington home. His leave of absence is so short that he probably will not be able to come to Lumberton. Capt. McLean is now at headquarters port of embarkation, New York.

Postal Zone Law Will Be Repealed. Mr. McLean brings from Washington the news that the postal zone system applying to newspapers and periodicals certainly will be repealed as a part of the new revenue bill about to be enacted by Congress. Further referring to this matter Mr. McLean said:

"I have always considered the legislation as unwise, but in any event it was a war emergency measure which should now be repealed. The newspapers and periodicals are an important part of our system of general education and publicity and are imperatively necessary in a great democratic country like ours, where public opinion is the supreme force back of all government. I believe that any consideration of the public welfare requires the most liberal treatment of these great agencies so that they may circulate freely and cheaply among the masses of the people. The press performs a most important public function in connection with all government activities, as, for instance, the great publicity given to government needs in time of war and also in peace times."

to help them. You are too low down yourself. If you are going to pretend to be Christians, be Christians. There is a Personal Devil. No doubt was left in the minds of his hearers that the devil is a very real and powerful personality when Mr. McLendon got through with his sermon on devils Friday evening. He declared that the devil is working just as hard to damn you as Jesus is working to save you, and he is the most powerful being in the world except God. He hammers away on your weak spot. If he cannot pull down into sin a man who is trying to serve God, he will try to sidetrack him into fanaticism. His dramatic representation of Judas betraying his Lord for a little money, and the crucifixion of Jesus and the suicide of Judas, was most impressive. The preacher put the cigarette down as being worse than most anything else in its damning effect upon the will and moral sense. He made a startling recital of its ravages.

Misbehaviors Rebuked. Some negroes misbehaved during this sermon and at the conclusion of the service Mr. McLendon rebuked them sharply and gave all to understand that he would tolerate no disrespect and unseemly conduct at his services.

Must Seek With Whole Heart. "Zacheus" was the theme of Evangelist McLendon's sermon Saturday evening. The preacher told of how anxiously Zacheus sought Jesus Christ and declared that every man who finds Christ must seek Him. It takes every faculty of the mind and soul to find God.

Christ died to save sinners, not Christians. Every man, it matters not what his position in life may be, has an equal chance of finding Christ. God welcomes those who are scorned by society. If you were born wrong you can be born again and born right. Jesus Christ can take the devil out of you. Neither the preacher nor the church can save you. Only Jesus can save you. The world sees the bad in you, while God sees the good. He knows how you stand.

Report of other sermons will be found elsewhere in this paper.

## CAUGHT IN THE ACT.

Nasby Hardin in Jail on Charge of Selling Booze.

Nasby Hardin, Indian, who lives a few miles north of Lumberton, was arrested Saturday night on the charge of retailing. Sheriff Lewis and Deputy F. A. Wishart were put wise as to the delivering point of Hardin and Saturday night they concealed themselves at that point. They did not have to wait long before an auto appeared on the scene. Two men left the auto and went to the Hardin home. They soon returned, accompanied by Hardin and six quarts of "white lightning." One quart was soon dispensed with and Hardin was telling the men what a hard time he had getting the liquor for them and urging them not to "give him away" when the officers rushed upon them. Hardin was brought to jail. He has been in court on the charge of distilling and selling liquor several times.

## OVERSEAS CASUALTIES.

Names of Robeson Soldiers and Others in Near-by Counties That Have Appeared in Casualty Lists.

Names of the following Robeson soldiers and others from some near-by counties have appeared in overseas casualty lists since last Thursday:

Died of disease: Privates J. W. Harrell, Bennettsville, S. C.; Archie Gillespie, R. 3, Red Springs.

Wounded severely: Corporals Theoria C. Walters, Lumberton; Dewey Lewis, Fayetteville; C. M. Ford, Lakeview, S. C.; Privates L. M. McNeill, Red Springs; Clarence F. Bowen, R. 1, Whiteville; W. D. Alford, Dillon, S. C.; Hermon Hendrix, Fayetteville; Dawson N. Sasser, Vineland; Wm. Campbell, Laurinburg; Luke H. Green, R. 1, Cerro Gordo; Noah M. Bullock, Fayetteville.

Wounded, degree undetermined: Privates Gibson Faircloth, Raeford; W. T. Clayton, Laurinburg.

Committee Approves Cape Fear Project.

The committee on rivers and harbors has approved the recommendation of Major General William M. Black, chief of engineers of the army, for the expenditure of \$398,625 on the Cape Fear river, near Southport. The provision specifies that \$303,625 will be used in cutting a channel across the ocean bar 30 feet at mean low water and 400 feet wide. An appropriation of \$95,000 annually will be made for maintenance of the channel and the present 26 foot channel in the river.

The improvement of the Cape Fear river from Wilmington to the sea is the only new project approved in the rivers and harbors bill for North Carolina.

Change in R. & C. Schedule.

A change will be made in the schedule of Raleigh & Charleston trains operating between Lumberton and Marion, S. C., effective Wednesday, January 1. Train No. 1 will leave Lumberton at 9:40 a. m. instead of 10:20 a. m. and returning will arrive here at 5:35 p. m. instead of 6:15 p. m. Train No. 2 will leave Lumberton at 11:30 a. m. instead of 12:30 p. m.

This change is made in order that train No. 1 may make connection with the Atlantic Coast Line train at Proctorville and the Seaboard at Smithboro.

## A GOOD INVESTMENT.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

"He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord, and that WHICH HE HATH GIVEN will he pay him again"—Prov. 19-17. How would "I like to be treated were I in the county home."

Send what you are willing to lend, to the home of Miss Lizzie Caldwell, not later than Dec. 24th, 1918, and the inmates of the home will get it.

Red Cross Christmas Roll Call Drive.

The Red Cross Christmas roll call drive for members ends at midnight tonight. Canvassers in Lumberton are meeting with hearty responses from the people, everybody who is able to do so joining, and it is understood that the response is loyal all over the county. Dr. R. F. Graham of Rowland, chairman, estimates that the number of members in Robeson will reach 5,000.

National Banks Set New High Record.

Resources of the national banks of the country on November 1, the date of the last call, aggregated \$19,821,404,000, Comptroller of the Currency Williams announced Sunday. This not only was a new high record, but was an increase of \$1,777,799,000 over the total shown by the call last August 31.

4 Negroes Lynched for Murdering White Man.

Four negroes, 2 sisters and 2 brothers, accused of the murder of Dr. E. L. Johnson at Mobile, Ala., recently, were taken from the jail at Shubuta, Miss., Friday night and lynched, according to a press dispatch. All four were hanged to the girders of a bridge spanning the Chickasaha river. The dispatch states the jailer was called into the street by a member of the mob and handcuffed. Dr. Johnson was shot and killed from ambush while in his barn. One of the negroes is said to have confessed and implicated the others.

## WITH ROBESON SOLDIERS

Mr. Don McGill arrived home Friday night from Portland, Oregon, having been released from the U. S. army.

Mr. Frank Bryant returned home Friday from Camp Jackson, S. C., where he had been since last August. He is subject to recall but does not consider it at all likely that he will have to return to camp.

Rev. Edward Brigman has returned home from Camp Sevier, Greenville, S. C., having been released from the army.

Mr. L. E. Whaley of Lumberton received this morning a letter from his son Mr. Elwood Whaley, an aviator with the American expeditionary forces in France. Mr. Whaley is the only man in his company that has been fortunate enough to secure a German officer's helmet. He has been offered a good price for it, as such souvenirs are highly prized, but has refused to sell, and will bring it home. He sent in the letter some German papers dropped behind the lines by aviators.

## FAVOR SINKING ENEMY SURRENDERED WARSHIPS

American Delegates Will Oppose Distributing Them on Basis of Naval Losses.

The American delegates to the peace congress have resolved to advocate the sinking of the surrendered enemy warships and resist any proposition to distribute them on the basis of naval losses, states a Paris dispatch. This announcement is made by those in close touch with the American representatives who, it is added, feel that such a position would result in avoiding contention and materially support President Wilson's declaration on aggression or the acquisition of property.

England, through Sir Eric Geddes, first lord of the admiralty, had previously acquiesced in the American plan to destroy the captured or surrendered warships and it is declared, will continue to support the United States, although it is expected that some of the lesser naval powers will demand that the prizes be distributed.

## PEACE JUBILEE AND EMANCIPATION CELEBRATION

Colored People of Robeson Are Preparing an Unusually Interesting Program for January 1st.

Correspondence of The Robesonian. The colored people of Robeson county are preparing an unusually interesting program for the first day of January.

A peace jubilee in connection with the Emancipation celebration is to be held. Hon. T. L. Johnson of the local bar and Dr. Spurgeon Davis of Wilson are the speakers.

All discharged colored soldiers in the county are asked to meet at the graded school building at 10 o'clock on that day and form a line of parade.

The regular exercises will take place in the court house at 11:30. The outlook promises the best exercise of the kind ever held in the county. The presence of white friends of the race will be appreciated. W. C. POPE.

## Wilson Goes to England Thursday

President and Mrs. Wilson will go to London the day after Christmas from Paris. King George will give a banquet at Buckingham palace December 27 in honor of the President. The visit of President Wilson as an "overnight" guest at Buckingham will be the first time in history that President has been thus entertained at the palace.

President Wilson yesterday visited the Red Cross hospital at Neuilly, France, where he shook hands individually and talked with 1,200 badly wounded Americans, for the most part survivors of the Chateau Thierry action.

Supt. Joyner Resigns—Succeeded By Dr. E. C. Brooks.

Dr. J. Y. Joyner has resigned as State superintendent of public instruction a position he has held for 17 years, effective Jan. 1, and Gov. Bickett has appointed Dr. E. C. Brooks of Trinity college as his successor. The announcement was made Saturday from Raleigh and came as a complete surprise to the public.

## Wilcox Gets Pardon.

Having served half of his 30-year sentence, Jim Wilcox, convicted as the slaver of Nellie Cropsey, his Elizabeth City sweetheart, in 1902, was pardoned by Governor Bickett Friday. The pardon, Governor Bickett explained in a statement of reasons, was influenced by opinion in Pasquotank that the prisoner has been sufficiently punished and by the first statement Wilcox has ever made on the case, contained in a personal letter to the Governor.

France Lost 1,400,000 Soldiers Killed in War.

France mobilized 6,900,000 men during the war, had about 1,400,000 killed, while 800,000 recovered from wounds, according to a statement made in the chamber of deputies in Paris Friday.

Mr. H. L. Curtis of Hamer, S. C., is a Lumberton visitor today.

## SOLDIERS' LETTERS

The following interesting letter was received a few days ago by Prof. J. R. Poole, county superintendent of public schools, from his brother Dr. Claude Poole, who was located at St. Pauls when he enlisted:

Somewhere in France

November 12, 1918.

Dear Jim:

Well, I guess the people in the States pulled off some celebration last night.

I wish you could have been up front with us on the night before. The guns have shot some before, of course, but for nine hours before the Boche envoys came over they never ceased. But the last hour from 10 to 11 o'clock yesterday was when everything in the way of a gun was turned loose. They were fired until some of the largest guns were almost red hot, and it was that way from Switzerland to the sea. Some of our boys even had to go over the top for the last time and bayonet some more "just for luck." Every commanding officer's watch, though, was set exactly the same, and at 11 o'clock, to the second, all guns were silenced. I was standing right at curbing battery, and they fired their last shot at 10:58.

We also had right many casualties, and we were busy all of last night operating on both Americans and Germans. Nearly all of the German doctors had been killed, in our division, and they left their wounded for us.

I bet the front lines were the quietest spots in the world last night. There was scarcely a sound to be heard on either side. I suppose we noticed it as much, though, on account of being accustomed to such an awful racket.

Our next proposition now is to get home. I understand that all the divisions that have been serving at the front will be sent home first. You certainly hope that is true. You see there are thousands of fellows back in the rear who have never heard a gun fired, and have been just as safe—or more so—than at home; and it is nothing but right for the poor devils who have been through all this nerve-racking service to be sent out first.

I wish you could see what was once the city of Verdun—the place you have read so much about for the past four years. Now, it is nothing except a pile of brick and mortar, and completely undermined with tunnels, and excavations that will hold thousands of men. The Boche never did capture it but they certainly shot it up enough.

I suppose I am allowed to tell you now that I was in the Argonne forest and in the St. Mihiel drive, which I know you have been reading lots about recently.

Your Brother,

CLAUDE POOLE.

## THE RECORD OF DEATHS.

Mrs. M. C. Fisher—Funeral Yesterday.

Mrs. M. C. Fisher, aged 60 years, died early Saturday morning at the home of her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. B. Sam Edwards, with whom she lived, in the eastern part of town. Deceased had been in ill health for several months and her death was not unexpected. The funeral was conducted at the grave yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock by Rev. W. D. Combs, pastor of the Gospel Tabernacle, and interment was made in the Great Marsh cemetery, near St. Pauls. Mr. Combs was assisted by Rev. W. S. Johnson.

Mrs. Fisher was a loyal member of Great Marsh Baptist church and had many friends. She is survived by three children—two daughters, Mrs. B. Sam Edwards and Mrs. H. R. Smith of Lumberton, and one son, Mr. Ellis Fisher, who is in the army.

## Mr. A. D. Prevatt of Rowland.

Mr. A. D. Prevatt, a well-known citizen of Rowland, died Friday morning of influenza-pneumonia. Deceased was around 45 years old and had conducted a barber shop at Rowland for several years. He is survived by his wife.

Mr. Lester Rowan Victim of Influenza.

Mr. Lester Rowan, aged about 30 years, died at his home in the north-eastern part of town Saturday night of pneumonia following influenza. Deceased is survived by his wife and one child. Interment was made in the family burying ground, near Smyrna church, this morning at 11 o'clock.

Funeral of Walter Hines Page at Aberdeen Tomorrow.

Walter Hines Page, former ambassador to the court of St. James, died at Pinehurst Saturday night. He returned from England in October in a critical condition, was in a hospital in New York for some weeks, and about 10 days ago was taken to Pinehurst. The funeral services will be held from the Page Memorial church at Aberdeen tomorrow at 11 a. m.

## Flour Regulations Off.

Cancellation of all flour milling regulations, including flour price schedule and the price and quantity restrictions on the sale of wheat flour by millers, which officials expect will result in cheaper flour, was formally announced Friday by the food administration.

Lumberton is running over with Christmas shoppers today. Among the crowd are many soldiers who have recently been discharged from the army.

## COTTON MARKET.

Middling cotton is selling on the local market today for 27 1-2 cents the pound.

## BRIEF ITEMS LOCAL NEWS

—Local banks will be closed Wednesday and Thursday of this week, taking two days off for Christmas.

—Mr. J. G. Stephens of Elizabethtown is relieving Mr. Grady Frink as second trick operator at the Seaboard station.

—There is complaint about children cutting the trees in town with hatchets. It is said they are doing George Washington stunts on Elm street.

—Messrs. A. T. McLean, H. B. Jennings, Jno. S. McNeill and R. H. Crichton will leave the day after Christmas for Florida on a hunting trip.

—Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Turner moved last week from Fairmont to the Lon Bullard place at old Kingsdale. Mr. Turner was a Lumberton visitor Thursday.

—Mr. and Mrs. A. W. McLean of Lumberton were among those who attended the "at home" given by Secretary of the Treasury and Mrs. McAdoo in Washington last week.

—The graded and high school suspended Friday for the holidays and will begin the spring term Wednesday, January 1, instead of Monday, December 30, as at first determined.

—Amanda Brown and George McDonald, a couple of color, were married in the office of Register of Deeds M. W. Floyd Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Justice M. G. McKenzie officiated.

—About 50 cases of "flu" and two deaths from influenza-pneumonia were reported to Dr. W. A. McPhaul, county health officer, last week. There was some increase over the previous week.

—License has been issued for the marriage of Stephen Baxley and Lillie Soles; Wm. Lee Davis and Eva Frances Prevatt; Leslie J. Ivey and Nola Watts; James J. Kinlaw and Maude Byrd.

—The case against David Bryan and Thad Shooter, the two boys who confessed robbing the McAllister hardware store, as mentioned in The Robesonian recently, has been compromised and the boys released. The stolen articles were all recovered.

—Mr. F. M. Gilbert, for the last 14 months local lineman for the Southern Bell Telephone Co., was transferred last week to Allendale, S. C. He is succeeded, here by Mr. John Robinson, who came here from Taylorsville.

—Mrs. F. F. Townsend and children, little Misses Lois and Eunice, of R. 6, Lumberton, attended the McLendon meetings Saturday and yesterday. Mrs. Townsend is expecting her son Frank, who is on the U. S. S. Arethusa, home for Christmas.

—Mrs. B. C. Todd of Bellamy was a Lumberton visitor Saturday. She has not heard from her son Private Douglas Todd, Co. H, 7th Inf., American expeditionary forces in France, since October 30, and naturally feels some apprehension as to his safety.

—Dr. Raymond Thompson, acting assistant surgeon, United States Public Health Service, with rank of first lieutenant, is spending a few days here visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Thompson, Elm street. Dr. Thompson is stationed at Charlotte, where he made his home before enlisting with Uncle Sam.

—In a letter dated Dec. 18, to the editor asking that the address of his paper be changed from Roper to Troy, Rev. N. L. Seabolt, former beloved pastor of the Lumberton circuit, writes: "We will leave Roper tomorrow for our new home in Troy. We are pleased with our new appointment and glad to get back to the Rockingham district."

—The new Alpine cafe will be opened in the McLeod building, corner Elm and Fourth streets, tomorrow afternoon at 5:30. The cafe will be managed by Mr. O. L. McClellan, an experienced cafe man, who comes to Lumberton from Margon's cafe, Charlotte. The cafe is owned by several Lumberton people and no doubt will enjoy a splendid business.

—Mr. C. J. Smith of Henderson, of the firm of Knott & Smith, who operated a tobacco warehouse here last season, was a Lumberton visitor Saturday. It was reported recently that Mr. Smith was dead, and he was proving by his presence here that the report of his death "was very much exaggerated." He expects high prices for tobacco next year and says his warehouse will be open till all the tobacco in this section is sold.

—Abraham and Henry N. Schwartzman, brothers of Mrs. Jos. Blacker, with one of their "buddies" Morris Cohen, are in Lumberton spending their Christmas furlough. Abraham Schwartzman and Morris Cohen are stationed in the same regiment at the naval air station, Charleston, S. C. They will spend the week in town. Henry N. Schwartzman is attached to the pay office of the naval overseas transportation service at Baltimore, Md. His stay has been cut short due to his services being needed at his headquarters, due to so many navy men at his station being relieved from actual service.

DR. WILLIAM W. PARKER.

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